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## TREES CONSERVE SOIL AND WATER

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U.S. Department of Agricutur

Trees are the first line of defense against erosion on hilly and mountainous lands. Their protective cover prevents run-off from sweeping down the slopes, carrying away topsoil and dumping debris onto lowlands and into reservoirs and channels. When agricultural lands become unproductive through mismanagement and consequent erosion, trees play an important part

in the restoration and protection of the soil. The woodland will contribute also to an increase in the farm income.



Farm forests, in addition to providing a merchantable crop, recreation areas, and a home for wildlife, help to stabilize stream flow upon which irrigated agriculture largely depends for its water supply.



A thick litter on the floor of the protected forest impedes run-off, permits increased percolation and underground storage of water, and by its decay, builds soil. Added to this are cash returns from properly managed farm woodlands.



Fire destroys thousands of acres of timber and woodlands every year, thus baring new areas to the hazards of erosion.



A crew of CCC enrollees planting young trees which is one method of preventing erosion and making the land again productive. Woodlands, as a part of the general farm economy, help increase profits.



A thriving eucalyptus planting on former bean land that was badly eroded. The volunteer vegetation gives added protection against erosion until the trees provide adequate cover. In a few years these trees will furnish additional income to the farmer and offer a haven for wildlife.



Steep land from which native cover has been removed, when improperly used, suffers from severe sheet erosion and soon loses its value for cultivated crops. The hills in the background are protected by a good chapparal cover, soil is held in place, and rainfall is conserved in contrast to the high losses from the cleared slopes in the foreground.

